

Remarks/Arguments:

According to the Office Action Applicants' response filed January 28, 2002, was not fully responsive because the claims did not "include a status identifier in parentheses following each claim number." The Office Action is obviously incorrect.

The PTO rules requiring "a status identifier in parentheses following each claim number" did not go into effect until July 30, 2003, i.e., not until one and a half years after the allegedly non-compliant response was filed.

Nevertheless, in order to advance prosecution the claims at issue—including the requisite status identifier required under the present rules—are presented hereby.

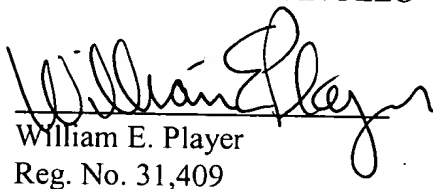
In accordance with current PTO rules, the remainder of the previously filed response is of record and need not be repeated, herein.

Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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